

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 836

By Faison

A RESOLUTION to honor Senator Lamar Alexander for his lifetime of exemplary service to the State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that we should recognize a dedicated, effective, and long-serving elected official and statesman from Tennessee, namely Senator Lamar Alexander; and

WHEREAS, having proudly represented the State of Tennessee in the United States Senate for seventeen years, Senator Alexander will retire from that body at the conclusion of his third term in January 2021, having built a legacy in public service that is second to none; and

WHEREAS, first elected to the United States Senate in 2002, Senator Lamar Alexander has rendered sterling service as chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee as well as chairman of the Senate Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee, where he has worked to boost funding for basic energy research and investment in Tennessee's inland waterways and harbors; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished legislative career, Senator Alexander has been elected three times by his Republican colleagues to serve as chair of the Senate Republican Conference; and

WHEREAS, he was one of four senators to receive the Restoring the Balance Award for protecting states' rights in 2013, the first time in a decade that the National Conference of State Legislatures had presented this award to U.S. senators; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Senator Lamar Alexander was the first-ever recipient of the James Madison Award, which is presented by the nation's governors to a member of Congress who supports federalism and the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; Senator Alexander received the award in recognition of his work to secure the passage of an education

bill, signed into law in December 2015, that made substantial changes to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2002; and

WHEREAS, a seventh-generation Tennessean, Senator Alexander was born and raised in Maryville and served as the State's forty-fifth governor and president of the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Senator Lamar Alexander also served as the United States Secretary of Education during the George H.W. Bush presidential administration; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman of many talents, Senator Alexander is the author of seven books and a classical and country pianist; and

WHEREAS, after a lifetime of public service to the citizens of Tennessee, Senator Alexander has made the decision to retire and spend more time with his wife, Honey, and their four children, nine grandchildren, and dog, Rufus; and

WHEREAS, Senator Lamar Alexander has set the standard for present and future Tennesseans serving in the United States Senate, and his legacy of government of, by, and for the people is the crowning achievement of his brilliant career; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor Senator Lamar Alexander for his lifetime of exemplary service to the State of Tennessee as a United States senator and as the State's forty-fifth governor, commend his ongoing commitment to the health and well-being of all Tennesseans, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.